

IS A BURLESQUE ON JUSTICE

Peculiar Methods Employed in the Omaha Police Court.

CRIMINALS DO NOT FEAR THIS TRIBUNAL

Tricky and Unscrupulous Lawyers Manipulate the Court Machinery to Suit Themselves and Thrive on Straw Bond Business.

The affairs of the Omaha police court are becoming the talk of the town. That this court is a burlesque on justice and a fraud upon the taxpayers in particular and the people in general is a universally admitted fact. The city is being deprived of its just revenue from the prosecution of criminals and dangerous characters generally are discharged, notwithstanding there is the most conclusive proof against them. This wholesale dismissal of criminal cases is engineered by the police court lawyers, with the kind assistance of Judge Gordon, who has but a piece of plastic putty in the hands of these shrewd and unscrupulous manipulators.

Despite the complaints of the methods employed in the police court matters appear to be drifting from bad to worse. The police court is no longer a court of material revenue to the city and in almost as much of a drain upon the taxpayers as it is upon the public morals. Not only is Judge Gordon permitting a horde of curbside attorneys to prey upon the public, but he has gone further and arrogated to himself authority expressly prohibited by the statutes. The statutes of Nebraska declare that "the police judge shall remit no fine or costs in any case." The records of the police court reveal how openly and flagrantly this injunction has been transgressed. During the last month Judge Gordon, in the face of the provisions of the law to the contrary, suspended upwards of thirty fines and costs amounting in the aggregate to more than \$180. In nearly every instance where there was a fine and then a suspended sentence the arrest was made for the violation of a city ordinance, money which if paid would go to the city school fund and to the general fund. This represents a clean loss to the city in one month of more than \$180, and that, too, through the open violation of the law by the police magistrate. When this is associated with "judicial leniency," which means that about 85 per cent of the offenders arrested by the police are discharged by the police judge, the cause of the sharp decline in the receipts of the police court is fully revealed.

Revenue is Lost.

While in most metropolitan cities the police court is a source of revenue of no inconsiderable importance, this is no longer true of Omaha. Aside from what was realized last year through the sale of the monthly fines, the report of the money turned into the public treasury show that there has been a gradual decline in the receipts of the police court since Judge Gordon was first elected. That the cause of this decline is due to Judge Gordon himself is evidenced by the fact that the city is steadily growing in proportion, with a consequent increase in the number of offenders arrested.

The following data will show the volume of business and the results for the first five months of the years 1897, 1898 and 1899 in the police court.

From January 1 to June 1, 1897, the number of cases tried was 2,177; number of convictions, 736; amount of fines collected and costs paid, \$944.90.

From January 1 to June 1, 1898, the number of cases tried was 2,333; number of convictions, 681; amount of fines and costs paid, \$1,082.50.

From January 1 to June 1, 1899, the number of cases tried was 2,350; number of convictions, 389; amount of fines and costs paid, \$353.

It will be seen by the foregoing comparison that from the inception Judge Gordon has gradually grown from bad to worse, until within the five months just closed of the present year he has discharged approximately 85 per cent of the offenders and criminals arrested and set them free, not only to prey upon the community but to increase the burdens of the taxpayers. For the first five months of Judge Gordon's term as police judge the receipts of the police court declined nearly 50 per cent, as compared with a corresponding period during his predecessor. The first five months of 1895 the receipts amounted to \$1,678, and for a similar period in 1896 the receipts in the police court amounted to \$1,737.50. From this, notwithstanding that there has been a large increase in the number of arrests, the receipts have dwindled to the paltry sum of \$353 for the first five months of the present year.

It requires no great amount of mental energy to determine the cause of this decline. In the case of Judge Gordon has proven himself unequal to the task of police magistrate. In the matter of furnishing evidence sufficient to convict he has been altogether too exacting. It is notorious among attendants of the police court that it requires more evidence to secure a conviction before Judge Gordon than it ordinarily requires to secure a conviction in the district court. This fact alone has been an insurmountable obstacle to the police, who find the criminal classes greatly encouraged by the knowledge that they will escape conviction unless the evidence against them is preponderant and conclusive.

The Police Court Lawyer.

Another item not to be overlooked in explaining away the cause and effect is the police court lawyer. It is only of late years—it is only since Judge Gordon has been on the bench—that the police court has been considered a field where lawyers might profitably practice their profession. Lawyers, like bumble bees, are quick to select the bud that promises the most honey and as a result the police court is daily thronged with these obnoxious satellites, who, by preying upon the leniency of the court and the credulity of those arrested, manage to reap a rich and bountiful harvest. As with the mosquito, where you kill one you will come to the funeral, so with the police court lawyer—where a few years ago there was one lawyer in the police court, now there are ten. Money which should be paid into the public treasury as fines and costs is mostly paid to the attorneys, who, either with seductive whippersnors lure the court into accepting them as bondsmen and letting the offender escape on a straw bond, or secure a suspended sentence or appeal, in case of conviction. More than 50 per cent of the bonds taken in the police court are signed by the attorneys as sureties, though many of these same attorneys have not a dollar's worth of lawful security and only for their legal acumen would not know a tax receipt from a Chinese laundry tag. Yet they are not only accepted as bondsmen by the court, but they make so bold as to charge the unfortunate clients from \$2 to \$10 for furnishing the bond. It is not extravagant to say that the combined assets of the corps of police court lawyers, who are daily accepted as bondsmen by the police judge, would not aggregate a sufficient amount, if given all the time to place that one safely outside of pale of the vagrancy act. Difficulty in securing a conviction rather than the client's moral obligation to his "bondsmen" to return for trial is what prevents the accused from failing to appear and having the bond forfeited.

The police have repeatedly protested against these abuses as tending to encourage criminals and prevent the representation of crime. Their protests have been ignored by the so-called attorneys and ignored by the court. Only by strenuous efforts even to the extent of trespassing on the law themselves have the police succeeded in staying the hand of the watchful and active criminal who is not slow in computing the advantages and benefits accruing to him from such conditions.

WISCONSIN CENTRAL SOLD

Reorganization Committee Buys the Whole Road from Special Master Hoyt for \$7,300,000.

EAU CLAIRE, Wis., July 7.—Special Master Hoyt today sold the Wisconsin Central railway to the reorganization committee for \$7,300,000. Master Hoyt, surrounded by receivers, attorneys and officials of the company, commenced reading the notice of the sale at 10 o'clock today on the station platform in this city. After the reading, which occupied thirty minutes, Attorney Bundy, in behalf of the Chippewa Valley Electric railway, read a notice of its petition in relation to the property on the line of the road which is involved in condemnation proceedings and stated he would give a copy to Mr. Hoyt later. Mr. Hoyt then offered the fourteen parcels consecutively.

George Coppell, representing the reorganization committee, was the only bidder, the bids by parcels being as follows: First, \$20,000; second, \$10,000; third, \$150,000; fourth, \$20,000; fifth, \$20,000; sixth, \$250,000; seventh, \$200,000; eighth, \$400,000; ninth, \$10,000; tenth, \$1,000,000; eleventh, \$120,000; twelfth, \$200,000; thirteenth, \$10,000; fourteenth, \$50,000; total, \$7,300,000.

Each parcel was severally declared sold to Messrs. Coppell, Brown and Bull. On the offer by Mr. Hoyt of the property in its entirety Mr. Coppell bid \$7,300,000 and it was formally declared sold as a whole to Messrs. Coppell, Brown and Bull for that sum. A conference in regard to the delivery of the property was held and Mr. Hoyt said he would probably make delivery of the deed Wednesday next.

NOT IN CONSOLIDATING BUSINESS.

Denial of Report Regarding Pennsylvania and New York Central.

PHILADELPHIA, July 7.—A prominent official of the Pennsylvania railroad today denied the published statement that the Pennsylvania and the New York Central railroads had entered a compact by which the two systems had practically become one.

To a reporter of the Associated Press he said: "The story is too absurd to receive any consideration. There has never been any thought of consolidating the two systems. The statement is simply a rehearsal of a story published some time ago."

"The New York Central is practically a family railroad owned by the Vanderbilts, while there are 30,000 stockholders in the Pennsylvania road. The relations of the two companies are pleasant, but as the Pennsylvania railroad is competing with the New York Central for western traffic, the interests of the two roads are not compatible, and consequently a consolidation or amalgamation would be out of the question."

Regarding Mr. Cassatt's presence at the Boston and Albany meeting of the New York Central directors, the official said: "Mr. Cassatt made a personal call on President Callaway of the New York Central on that day, but he was not present during the meeting of the board of directors."

He ridiculed the idea that Mr. Vanderbilt was instrumental in securing President Cassatt's appointment, and denied the statement that Mr. Vanderbilt is the largest stockholder in the Pennsylvania railroad.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Concerning the report that the New York Central system and the Pennsylvania railway system were to be merged, S. R. Callaway, president of the New York Central railway, said today that the first he has heard of the report was through a newspaper article. He had absolutely nothing to say in regard to it.

RECEIVER FOR MONON ROAD.

Judge Woods Takes the Application Under Adversity.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 7.—Judge Woods of the federal court today took under advisement the application for a receiver for the Monon railroad. James M. Winters was appointed a special master to take testimony to ascertain whether or not there had been an agreement between the stockholders and bondholders of the Louisville and New Albany & Chicago to throw the road into the hands of the receiver and thus defeat the claims of the unsecured creditors, one of whom, the Louisville Trust company, asked for the appointment of a receiver for the Chicago and Indianapolis & Louisville, which is the successor of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago. The court's action is believed to indicate that the application for a receiver will not be granted.

Minimum Allowance Raised.

The Western Classification association is out with new rules and regulations. The only material difference over the old agreement lies in the increase of minimum weight of freight below which the benefit of reduced rates cannot be received. Formerly the figure was fixed at 24,000, but in the future it will be 30,000. The official classification raised the minimum figures on April 1. The Western has just raised its figures to meet that of the official. This has been necessitated by the constantly increasing capacity of freight cars. Under the old agreement each shipper was entitled to a separate car for his goods and it very often happened that the stockholders and bondholders of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago to throw the road into the hands of the receiver and thus defeat the claims of the unsecured creditors, one of whom, the Louisville Trust company, asked for the appointment of a receiver for the Chicago and Indianapolis & Louisville, which is the successor of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago. The court's action is believed to indicate that the application for a receiver will not be granted.

Projected Road to Cripple Creek.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., July 7.—Incorporation papers of the Colorado Springs & Cripple Creek Railway company have been filed. The incorporators are E. W. Giddings, Jr., James S. Burns, J. R. McKinzie, H. G. Lunt and F. M. Woods. The capital stock of the company is \$2,000,000, and of this amount 8,000 shares of \$100 each are to be preferred stock and 12,000 shares common stock. It is believed that the proposed line between Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek, for which surveys have been made, will be built without further delay.

Routing on Sleeping Car Tickets.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The acting commissioner of internal revenue has reaffirmed the decision of his office to the effect that the revenue stamp required to be affixed to parlor or sleeping car tickets may be affixed to berth or seat checks when tickets are not purchased by the passenger prior to his entering the car.

KELLEY, STIGER & CO.

Special July Reduction Sale of Novelty Parasols.

ECLOSE PROMPTLY AT 6 P. M. SATURDAY

Specials for Saturday and Monday in Women's and Children's Hosiery and Underwear—Special Agents for Butterick Patterns.

Women's fashioned full seamless, two-thread fast black tan hose and the best wearing quality, regular value 20c, Saturday only 15c.

Women's extra fine gauge, fast black and tan hose, drop stitch effect, white soles or solid black foot—these are special bargains—Saturday only 25c pair.

Women's lisle thread hose, with fancy drop stitch, fine gauge cotton or lisle, fine cotton in out sizes, our entire line of fancy lisle hose, an almost endless assortment of splendid values, and no woman can afford to overlook at our special price—Saturday only 35c pair.

We have a beautiful assortment of women's fancy lisle hose in black and tan, lace boot, an entire face effect; also a line of silk lisle hose, all styles—Saturday only 50c pair.

Children's fine fast black ribbed hose, seamless, double knee and toe, regular value 20c—Saturday, all sizes, only 15c pair.

Misses' 1-1 ribbed fine black hose, white soles, double knee and toe—Saturday 25c pair.

Misses' fine lisle ribbed hose, fast black and tan, sizes 5 to 7, 4c pair; 7 1/2 to 9, 5c pair.

Misses' silk lisle ribbed hose, fast black, double knee, heel and toe, size 5 to 6, 40c; 6 1/2 to 8, 50c; 8 1/2 to 10, 60c.

Women's fine white or ecru ribbed vests, silk tape, wing sleeve or sleeveless—worth 20c—Saturday 15c.

Women's "Munsing" union suit, special for warm weather, lace trimmed, white or ecru—Saturday 25c pair.

Women's lisle thread vests, high neck, long or short sleeves, silk tape, trimmed with lisle or ecru. Your choice Saturday, only 25c each.

Women's extra size vests and pants, long or short sleeves, low neck, sleeveless, white or ecru, knee pants, sizes usually hard to find—July 8—Saturday 25c each.

Women's silk vests, also real lisle thread, 75c qualities; cream white, blue and pink; entire lot Saturday 50c each.

Women's "Munsing" union suits, pure lisle thread, beautifully finished, all styles, special weight for warm weather, white or ecru, long or short sleeves, sizes 10 to 14.

Boys' halbrigan underwear, shirts long sleeves, knee or ankle length drawers, all sizes—only 25c each.

JULY CLEARING SALE UMBRELLAS AND PARASOLS.

Final reduction Saturday of all our season's exclusive novelties, regardless of cost. White china silk parasols, white enamel handles, choice, \$1.00.

White china silk parasols, double ruffle, and a fine line of black silk parasols, values up to \$3.50—Saturday \$1.75.

\$2.00 for fancy parasols, formerly \$2.50 and \$3.00.

\$3.00 for fancy parasols, formerly \$5.00 and \$6.00.

\$5.00 for very handsome parasols, formerly \$7.00 and \$8.00.

\$1.00 woman's black gloria silk umbrella, Congo loop and twist handles, \$1.00 value, steel rod, paragon frame—Saturday \$1.00.

\$2.25 for women's 28-inch colored silk umbrella, natural wood handles, steel rod, paragon frame, silk case, in blue, red and brown, worth \$3.00.

Closing out our entire line of shirt waists, including all the new and up to date patterns at cost.

KELLEY, STIGER & CO.

Corner Farnam and Fifteenth.

Bennett's store is an "early closing store." Fair treatment for working people indicates fair treatment to purchasers.

LIFTS LATCH FOR HARNESS

Thief Oversteps Bounds of Petty Larceny and Unintentionally Turns Burglar.

Doubtless when a thief stole Samuel Burns' harness from the stable at Eighteenth and Dodge streets he thought he was committing nothing more serious than petty larceny, but it seems that if caught he will be called upon to face a charge of burglary, because the door was closed and he was forced to lift the latch to enter. The harness was stolen Thursday night and Friday morning Detectives Drummy and Mitchell arrested C. H. Hayes, whom they suspected of the theft. They recovered the harness from a second-hand dealer, where Hayes had been sold, and also learned that Hayes had disposed of a set of harness and buggy pole which had been stolen from Dr. Gertrude Cusack.

Hayes has made it a practice of working during the day time raking yards and beating carpets. In the evening, it is claimed, he would go back to the place at which he worked during the day and take whatever he thought would be of any value. He did this in the case of Dr. Cusack.

Deputy County Attorney Halsey yesterday

afternoon filed a complaint alleging burglary against Hayes. He is accused of having broken open the stable of Mr. Burns, from which he took the set of harness.

Telephone Bennett's for groceries, No. 137.

LARGE SHIPMENT OF SALT

From West India for South Omaha Packer—A Million Pounds.

The salt of the earth, or at least 1,000,000 pounds of it, is going to be delivered in Omaha by the Burlington railroad.

The salt comes from Turk's Island, one of the West Indies, and is for the use of one of the packing houses in South Omaha. It is said that the peculiar quality of the salt makes it the best adapted for packing purposes.

The shipment will be the largest quantity of salt ever received at one time in this city. It will also be one of the largest shipments of any commodity ever received at this point. The salt is at present on its way here in a special train of thirty-three freight cars, each carrying somewhat over 30,000 pounds. It required an entire ship to transport the cargo from Turk's Island to New York. The train will arrive here tomorrow.

Card of Thanks.

To The Omaha Bee and to all my friends, especially those in the drug trade, who were to a great extent strangers to me personally, I desire to extend my sincere thanks for the assistance rendered in the recent contest, by which I am enabled to enjoy a much needed rest and vacation.

FLORENCE BURGERS.

SOME CHEAP EXCURSIONS

Via Rock Island Route.

Los Angeles and return, June 25-July 8, \$52.

Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo and return, June 25-July 8, \$19.

Detroit and return, July 3, 4 and 5, \$22.

Richmond, Va., and return, July 10, 11 and 12, \$33.70.

Lancaster and return, July 18, 19 and 20, \$19.40.

Salt Lake City and return, June 25-July 11, \$32.

For full information call at city ticket office, 1323 Farnam street.

MAGNIFICENT TRAINS.

Omaha to Chicago.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway has just placed in service two magnificent electric lighted trains between Omaha and Chicago, leaving Omaha daily at 5:45 p. m., arriving at Chicago at 8:25 a. m., and leaving Chicago at 6:15 p. m. and arriving at Omaha at 8:30 a. m. Each train is lighted thoroughly by electricity, has buffet smoking cars, drawing room sleeping cars, dining cars and reclining chair cars, and runs over the shortest line and smoothest roadbed between the two cities.

Ticket office, 1304 Farnam street, and at Union depot.

Telephone Bennett's for groceries, No. 137.

Try Bridenbecker's 25c meals.

Cheap Excursions North.

The Northwestern line, Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railway, will sell round trip tickets from June 25 to July 11, inclusive, at the following low rates:

St. Paul and Minneapolis, \$13.50.

Ashtabula and Ashtabula, Wis., \$18.10.

Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis., \$17.30.

Mackinac Island, Mich., \$22.90.

Marquette, Mich., \$22.50.

Also many other points at proportionately low rates.

All tickets good to return on or before October 4, 1899.

Inquire at city office, 1401 Farnam street, or Webster street station.

KELLEY, STIGER & CO.

Saturday We Commence a Clearing Sale of Seasonable Wash Goods.

PLAIN FACTS, NOT POETIC FANCIES

The Long Looked Forward to Clearance Sale on All Our Summer Wash Goods Has Arrived—Specials in Linen Department.

Everybody knows that we carry the best that money can buy. They know our styles, they know our quality, and they also know the veracity of our statements. Every yard and piece of goods has been reduced so low as to enable any one to be stylishly dressed at a comparatively small outlay.

All our dark blue lawns and lappet mulls that sold for 12 1/2c and 15c, clearance sale, 8 1/2c yard.

All our plain black lappet Swiss mulls that sold for 20c, clearance sale, 12 1/2c yard.

All our best dark and light blue, Congo dimies, clearance sale, 15c yard.

All our best 25c and 30c imported ginghams and madras cloth, clearance sale, 15c yard.

All our 35c German linen ginghams, clearance sale, 25c yard.

All our 45c and 50c colored dotted Swiss, clearance sale, 35c yard.

White and colored pique. We have the only assorted stock in Omaha.

This season's best styles at less than cost. All our 18c quality white pique, clearance sale, 11c yard.

All our 20c quality white and colored pique, clearance sale, 14c yard.

All our 30c and 35c quality white pique, clearance sale, 20c yard.

All our very best 45c and 50c quality white and colored pique, clearance sale, 25c yard.

HOUSEKEEPERS' ATTENTION.

100 dozen ready made sheets, 2x2 1/2 yards, well made and good quality, 35c each.

100 dozen ready-made sheets, 2 1/2x2 1/2 yards, same quality, 40c each.

200 dozen 45x36-inch pillow cases, good quality, 12 1/2c each.

One case of 45-inch Utica millie pillow case, 10c, now 12 1/2c yard.

LINEN DEPARTMENT SPECIALS.

One case large size crocheted bedspreads, our \$1.35 quality, now \$1.00 each.

50 bolts best Barnsley crash, 18 inches wide, 12 1/2c yard.

100 dozen double warp bath towels, 10c each.

50 dozen extra large size bleach bath towels, 20c quality, 20c each.

Remnants of cable linen from 1 1/2 to 3 1/2 yards, at cost price.

KELLEY, STIGER & CO.

Corner Farnam and Fifteenth.

W. R. Bennett Co. is an "early closing store." That means fair treatment for working people, fair goods and low prices. We close at 6 p. m. on Saturdays.

VERY LOW RATES TO

Colorado and Utah Via Rock Island Route.

Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo and return, \$19.

Glenwood Springs and return, \$31.

Salt Lake City and Ogden and return, \$32.

Dated July 1, 1899, to July 11. Good for return until October 31 with liberal stop-over privileges. The only line from Omaha running through trains to Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo. Call at city ticket office, 1323 Farnam street.

The Dewey European Hotel, 13th and Farnam. First-class rooms; rates reasonable.

Greater Bargains in Waists and Washable Skirts Saturday.

Crash Dress Skirts, finished with bands of navy blue duck—50c each.

Pure linen dress skirts, 95c.

White pique dress skirts, 85c.

Blue denim tailored skirts, \$2.50.

You'll find our skirts better in every way than anywhere else at same prices.

See our 25c skirt waists—this year's cut.

See the fine skirt waists in our east window that we will sell Saturday at 50c.

All go at 95c Saturday.

Shirt Waists—\$1.50.

In this lot you'll find \$2.75 Japanese crepe waists, \$2.00 waists of white pique with colored stripes, and \$2.50 madras waists besides many fine ginghams and percale waists that will give choice of at \$1.50.

Do your trading before six o'clock on Saturdays.

O.K. SCOFIELD

CLOAK & SUIT CO.

1510 Douglas St.

Alouez Mineral Water.

We are just in receipt of another shipment of the above named mineral water, direct from the springs. This is the water which is just now attracting so much attention for marked value in the treatment of Diabetes and Bright's Disease.

Ask us for the new mineral waters—WE HAVE THEM.

50c Woodbury's Facial Soap—our price 18c

\$1.00 Seltzer Pills—our price 75c

50c Charcot's Tablets—our price 40c

50c Syrup of Figs—our price 40c

\$1.00 Pierce's Favorite Prescription—our price 75c

35c Castoria—our price 25c

\$1.00 Hood's Sarsaparilla—our price 75c

25c Packer's Tar Soap—our price 15c

50c Vermont Root Beer—our price 14c

(Makes 5 gallons.)

50c Horst's Acid Phosphate—our price 40c

25c Thompson's Cherry Phosphate—our price 18c

Tanglefoot Fly Paper, 2 for 5c

50c Kilmer's Swamp Root, 2 for 40c

Sherman & McConnell Drug Co.

1513 DODGE ST., OMAHA, NEB.

EF FER VES CENT

means something. It means nothing more nor nothing less than the genuine old time lager beer—

KRUG CABINET